

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Schaller, et al.

Examiner: Nguyen, Tuan Van

Serial No.: 10/672,009

Group Art Unit: 3731

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Docket No.: P0022022.00

Title: SURGICAL CONNECTION APPARATUS AND METHODS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed October 29, 2008.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.